GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1870
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2007
PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF TEA
Rao Shri Kavuru Samba Siva

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of different varieties of tea exported and foreign exchange earned during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of production capacity of each processing units during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government proposes to encourage higher production of blended tea and diversification of export of blended tea to various foreign countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) : The total quantity of different varieties of tea exported during the last three years is as under :

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   Quantity : Million Kgs,
   Value : Rs.Crores.
Varieties of Tea 2003-04  2004-05  2005-06
   Qty. Value Qty. Value Qty. Value


Bulk Tea  140.70 1037.31 159.03 1312.86 154.23 1243.10
Packet Tea  34.01 405.80 35.73 353.65 30.53 285.02
Tea Bags  4.90 94.31 7.09 142.91 8.38 174.32
Instant Tea  3.46 99.57 3.96 115.29 3.53 91.14
Total   183.07 1636.99 205.81 1924.71 196.67 1793.58
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(b) : There are about 1700 processing units which are engaged in tea production activities. It is, therefore, difficult to ascertain individual processing capacities of these units.

(c) & (d) : India has been exporting value added tea including blended tea over the years to various countries. Exports from India have registered an increase in 2006 and this is expected to continue. In order to encourage tea exports in value-added form to earn more foreign exchange, a concessional import duty on various tea machineries was levied by the Government and duty on packaging material has been brought down.